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BRICS SUMMIT 2026

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Government Scheme | Summit | Partnership | GDP

Banking & Financial | Defence | Sports

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The Hindu Review (October 2026)

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Chapter 1: Appointment (National, International)

(National)

Organization	Person
HDFC Bank has announced as its next managing director and chief executive officer	Anup Bagchi (Updated 2 October)
Appointed Kotak Mahindra Bank MD and CEO	Anup Kumar Saha (Updated 2 October)
Assumed charge as Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)	Narendra Bhooshan (Updated 3 October)
ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has appointed as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer	Sidharatha Mishra (Updated 4 October)
Petronet LNG Limited's board has approved the appointment as the company's next Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Sanjay Kumar (Updated 5 October)
Appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of New India Assurance Company Ltd.	Lavanya R Mundayur (Updated 9 October)
Appointed as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff (CAS)	Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit (Updated 10 October)
The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the appointment as Deputy Election Commissioner	Prakash Rajpurohit (Updated 13 October)
Appointed as governor of Tamil Nadu	Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar (Updated 15 October)

Appointed as governor of Kerala	Om Prakash Mathur (Updated 15 October)
Appointed as governor of Karnataka	Dr. Sudha Yadav (Updated 15 October)
Appointed as governor of Odisha	Braj Mohan Ram (Updated 15 October)
Appointed as governor of Uttarakhand	Dr. Dhal Singh Bisen (Updated 15 October)
Appointed as governor of Sikkim	Dushyant Gautam (Updated 15 October)
International recognition for Indian oceanographic science elected as the Chair of the UNESCO-IOC Sub-Commission for the Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO)	Dr TM Balakrishnan Nair (Updated 19 October)
IndusInd General Insurance Company Ltd announced the appointment as its MD & CEO	Sharad Mathur (Updated 23 October)
The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment as the next chairman of the company	Sunil Kumar (Updated 25 October)

(International)

Organization / Country	Person
Morocco's King Mohammed VI on 29 September named as the country's prime minister **About Morocco** • **Capital:** Rabat • **Currency:** Moroccan Dirham (MAD)	Fatima Zahra Mansouri (Updated 1 October)

Crowned New King of Uganda's Tooro Kingdom **About Tooro Kingdom** • **Capital:** Fort Portal • **Currency:** Ugandan shilling	Journalist Edward Rukidi Nyabongo I (Updated 1 October)
Re-elected as President of Brazil For Fourth Term **Note: About Brazil** • **Capital:** Brasília • **Currency:** Brazilian real	Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva (Updated 29 October)

Chapter 2: Awards (National, International)

(National)

Award	Person/Organization	Purpose/ Field
'Vishisht Gujarat Garima Award	Pilot Captain Smit Machchhar	For saving the lives of **174 passengers during an attack on a Flydubai flight FZ1073** from **Dubai to Tel Aviv.**
First Jaspal Rana & Raja Randhir Singh awards	**Archer Kumkum Anil Mohod and wrestler Sujeet Kalkal**	In recognition of their performances at the **Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games**
The SKOCH Gold Award 2026 under the category "Digital Operational Efficiency – Data Driven Decision Making"	**The Coal Controller Organisation (CCO) SUVIKALP Initiative**	The **SKOCH Awards recognise excellence in governance, technology, innovation** and **transformational initiatives delivering public value**.

(International)

Award	Person/Organization	Purpose/ Field
Skytrax World Airline Awards 2026	Singapore Airlines	-

The title of the world's best airline		
Nobel Prize 2026 **Physiology or Medicine**	Karl Deisseroth (USA), Peter Hegemann (Germany), and Georg Nagel (Germany)	Discoveries leading to **optogenetics**, making it possible to **switch nerve cell activity on or off in a living brain.**
Israel's Highest Civilian Bravery Award	Indian Pilot Smit Machchhar	**For his bravery in preventing a potential catastrophe aboard a flydubai aircraft**
Ramanujan Prize for mathematics	Mahesh Kakde	Kakde's work in **algebraic number theory** was recognised by the prestigious platform.
A Knight of the National Order of the Legion of Honour (Chevalier de l'Ordre national de la Légion d'Honneur), France's highest civilian distinction	Sunil Bharti Mittal	Recognizing his **three-decade contribution to strengthening India-France economic ties, telecommunications, digital infrastructure, and space/satellite cooperation (via Eutelsat)**
Young Grand Title at the 2026 Wildlife Photographer of the Year	Oscar Whitfield	He captured the rare moment. **Titled 'Labour of Love'**
The Hillary Rodham Clinton Award	Indian social worker Reema Nanavaty	She focuses on women's economic empowerment by building women-owned enterprises and **women-led supply chains in energy, agribusiness, food processing, waste recycling, and textiles**.

The World's Best Consumer Bank 2026 award	State Bank of India (SBI)	The honour reflects the **bank's continued success in setting global benchmarks** in customer-centric banking through digital innovation, service excellence, and its deep commitment to inclusive growth.
The Karnataka Janapada Academy's Annual Honorary Award for 2026	Veteran folk artist Devadas Chimakode	Recognises his outstanding efforts over the **past 35 years to preserve, promote, and propagate traditional folk art forms** at the village level across the region.
The 2026 Oskar Klein Medal	Indian physicist Ashoke Sen	Ashoke Sen, a professor at the **International Centre for Theoretical Sciences (ICTS)** in Bengaluru, helped show that **five string theories once considered separate could be different descriptions of the same underlying theory**
2026 Princess of Asturias Sports Award	Lionel Messi	One of the greatest footballers of all time, Messi has won **eight Ballon d'Or titles, a World Cup and dozens of trophies at club level**.
The Behaviour: Invertebrates category at the 2026 Wildlife	Indian wildlife and macro photographer Sitaram Raul	Winning Photograph: Titled **"Shifting Sand".**

Photographer of the Year competition		
The prestigious 'G-Mark - Global Design Award'	Shabari Naturals, a Maharashtra government initiative	For its attractive packaging **inspired by traditional art forms**
70th Ballon d'Or **Men's Category**	Harry Kane	Completed his long quest for **football's highest individual honour**, with the **Bayern Munich and England striker** winning the **Ballon d'Or** after a record-breaking season that cemented his status as one of the game's greatest goalscorers.
UAE's top civilian award	**Indian pilot Captain Smit Machchhar** and the flydubai crew	The honour recognises their **efforts to protect passengers and secure the aircraft** during the emergency.

Awards 2026: Complete winners list

Nobel Prize 2026: Winners List

Category	Laureate(s)	Motivation / Contribution
Physiology or Medicine	Karl Deisseroth (USA), Peter Hegemann (Germany), and Georg Nagel (Germany)	Discoveries leading to optogenetics, making it possible to switch nerve cell activity on or off in a living brain.
Physics	Francis Halzen (Belgian and U.S. citizenship)	Decisive contributions to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory and the discovery of high-energy neutrinos of astrophysical origin.
Chemistry	Henri B. Kagan (France)and Kenso Soai (Japan)	Discovery of non-linear effects and autocatalysis in asymmetric organic synthesis.
Literature	Anne Carson (Canada)	For a bold and inventive oeuvre that, in playful dialogue with the classical tradition, has created new forms for contemporary literature.

Peace	Navanethem Pillay (South Africa)	The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded her the prize for her decades-long efforts to promote international law, human rights, and the prosecution of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide.
Economic Sciences	Robert E. Hall (USA) and Michael Woodford (USA)	For their work on the microeconomic foundations of macroeconomic stabilisation.

70th Ballon d'Or: Harry Kane Won in Men's Category, Alexia Putellas Won in Women's Category

- **Harry Kane completed his long quest for football's highest individual honour**, with the **Bayern Munich and England striker winning the Ballon d'Or** after a record-breaking season that cemented his status as one of the game's greatest goalscorers.
- **Harry Kane is the first Englishman to win the prestigious award in 25 years**, after **Michael Owen won it in 2001.**
- **Spain midfielder Alexia Putellas won the Ballon d'Or Feminin** for the **third time**.
- Putellas previously won the award in 2021 and 2022.

Other awards:

- **Men's Young Talent of the Year:** Lamine Yamal (Spain and Barcelona)
- **Women's Young Talent of the Year:** Vicky Lopez (Spain and Barcelona)
- **Men's Goalkeeper of the Year:** Unai Simon (Spain and Athletic Bilbao)
- **Women's Goalkeeper of the Year:** Cata Coll (Spain and Barcelona)
- **Men's Coach of the Year:** Luis de la Fuente (Spain)
- **Women's Coach of the Year:** Pere Romeu (Barcelona)
- **Men's Club of the Year:** Paris Saint-Germain
- **Women's Club of the Year:** Barcelona
- **Socrates Award for humanitarian work off the pitch:** Arsenal star Bukayo Saka for using his influence to help children and people in vulnerable situations.

Chapter 3: Government Scheme/ campaign

SCHEME	PURPOSE

Bhagini Nivedita Scheme **(West Bengal)**	The **West Bengal Cabinet has approved the Bhagini Nivedita Scheme,** which aims to support **unmarried women pursuing higher education.**

Chapter 4: Summit/ Conference

Summit/Conference	Location	About
The PRAHAAR counter-terrorism policy conference	New Delhi	The PRAHAAR framework comprises pillars: **Prevention, Response, Aggregating Internal Capacities, Human Rights, Attenuating Conditions, Aligning International Efforts, Recovery and Resilience**
The G20 Trade Ministers' Meeting	Milwaukee, Wisconsin	The event served as a major stepping stone leading up to the main **2026 G20 Leaders' Summit** scheduled for **December in Miami, Florida.**
The 153rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)	Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania	An Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by **Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Shri Harivansh** is participating in the 153rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).
The 10th edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC)	New Delhi	The theme of IMC 2026 is **"Scale Without Boundaries"**, reflecting India's growing

		capabilities in digital innovation, next-generation connectivity and technology-led growth.
The first meeting of BIMSTEC Home Ministers	New Delhi	The meeting reaffirmed the shared commitment of **BIMSTEC member countries** to strengthening **regional security, trust, and cooperation in the Bay of Bengal region.**
The 61st Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology	New Delhi	The three-day meeting marks a significant milestone in **India's growing role in international cooperation, harmonisation of measurement standards,** promotion of fair trade and consumer protection.
The World Health Summit 2026	Berlin, Germany	Theme- **"From Crisis to Resilience: Innovating for Health"**
12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum	New Delhi	The agenda is designed to **cover both institutional questions and broader international challenges, including ethical AI, digital transformation, global governance reform** and **sustainable development**.
The 7th AgriVoltaics World Conference (AWC) 2026	New Delhi	Under the theme "**Powering the Global South,"** the summit explores how dual-land usage can revolutionize **clean energy generation and agricultural productivity.**
The UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport	New Delhi	India plans to introduce amendments to the **National Anti-Doping Act** to include criminal penalties for coaches and **supply chain stakeholders.**
The 31st Conference of the Parties (COP31) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Antalya, Türkiye	The conference is significant as countries will discuss **measures to address climate change, strengthen climate finance**, **improve adaptation and accelerate** the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Chapter 5: Partnership/ Agreement

Partnership/ Agreement	Aim
NTPC Limited, India's largest power utility, has signed a Cooperation Agreement with Africa50, an	To jointly **identify, assess and develop power-generation projects** and **cross-border electricity** trading opportunities across **Africa**

investor specialising in African infrastructure	

Chapter 6: Ranking Index

Index	Index released by	India's Rank	1st Rank
The Global Hunger Index 2026	German aid agency Welthungerhilfe (WHH) and Concern Worldwide along with partner institutions: the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV) and the Swiss organisation Helvetas	100th **(Score 24.1)**	Belarus **(Score: <5.0)**
Henley Passport Index 2026	Henley & Partners	84th	Singapore **(193 destinations)**

Chapter 7: Mergers and Acquisitions

Chapter 8: Loan

Chapter 9: App/Website/Portal

Chapter 10: Important MoU

MoU	Between Which Countries
Signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for skill development and received a fresh	Chhattisgarh with **Singapore-based ITE Education Services**

investment proposal of Rs 350 crore in the agro and food processing sector.	
Signed five Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) valued at USD 247,502.47 under the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) framework	**India** and Myanmar
Signed 'Badr Memorandum of Understanding' to boost defence cooperation	**Turkey, Qatar, Pakistan**, and **Indonesia**
Signed an MoU to establish a framework for academic and research collaboration	**IIIT-Bangalore** and **Poland's AGH University of Krakow**

India and Myanmar sign MoUs on five Quick Impact Projects under Mekong - Ganga Cooperation

Focus Areas of the Five Projects

The QIPs target grassroots community development and local infrastructure across Myanmar:

- **WASH Support:** Water, sanitation, and hygiene initiatives.
- **Boiler Operations:** Equipment and operational upgrades.
- **Road Upgrades:** Local and regional transport improvements, such as village ring-road upgrades.
- **Sports Facilities:** Community and athletic infrastructure, such as a futsal stadium in Mandalay.
- **Software Support:** Technical and data-analytics assistance, including support for Myanmar's Auditor-General's office.

Chapter 11: GDP Forecasting

World Bank Raises India GDP Growth Forecast For FY27 To 7.1%

- The **World Bank raised India's GDP growth forecast for the current fiscal to 7.1 per cent, up 0.5 percentage points from its projections in April,** supported by robust domestic demand and strong exports, despite global headwinds.
- "**We have upgraded our FY27 growth forecast to 7.1 per cent from 6.6 per cent in April.**

IMF raises India's FY27 growth forecast to 7% from 6.4%

- **India's economy is projected to grow 7 percent in FY27, higher than the 6.4 percent estimated earlier, the International Monetary Fund (IMF)** said in its October **World Economic Outlook (WEO),** as strong domestic demand and services activity **helped the country withstand global economic disruptions.**

- The **IMF also raised its FY28 growth forecast to 7 percent from 6.7 percent**, suggesting that India's growth momentum could extend beyond the current financial year.

Fitch unit raises India FY27 growth forecast to 7.5%

- **BMI has raised India's economic growth forecast for 2026-27 to 7.5% from the previous estimate of 6.8%.** The agency cites strong growth momentum and ongoing investment in artificial intelligence as key factors. **However, risks from rising oil prices and potential El Nino disruptions could negatively impact growth.**
- Additionally, **the forecast for 2027-28 has been adjusted down to 6.3%,** reflecting concerns for household consumption.

Deloitte Projects India GDP Growth at 7.1–7.3% in FY27

- **Deloitte has projected India's economy to grow by 7.1-7.3 per cent in FY 2026-27**, with a sustained revival in private investment expected to add another source of demand and build productive capacity for future growth, **according to its latest Economic Outlook.**
- The report also forecast gross domestic **product growth of 6.6-7 per cent in FY 2027-28.**

Chapter 12: Current Affairs (National)

India Adds Five Cultural Sites to UNESCO Tentative List 2026

- **Five new sites and serial and transnational** proposals have been included in **India's UNESCO Tentative List, increasing India's count to 78**. The newly added sites include the **Buddhist murals of Bagh Cave Paintings, Group of Temples of the Chambal Valley, the Gupta-era Udaigiri Caves, and the tribal legacy of Ginnorgarh.**
- It also includes the Sites of Satyagraha, which is a serial transnational proposal connecting India and South Africa.

Jharkhand's traditional musical instrument Mandar gets Geographical Indication tag

- The traditional **musical instrument Mandar, deeply rooted in the folk culture and tribal life of Jharkhand**, has received official recognition with a **Geographical Indication tag.**
- The traditional folk instrument Mandar of Jharkhand has been accorded a GI tag, giving legal recognition to its distinctive geographical and cultural identity. The Geographical Indications Registry of the Government of India, based in Chennai, has granted the GI tag **to 'Mandar of Jharkhand'.**

Delhi CM Launches 'Udyog Mitra' for Seamless Business Approvals

- **Chief Minister Rekha Gupta** on 29 **September launched the 'Delhi Udyog Mitra' portal under the ease of doing business** initiative to bring multiple approvals and No **Objection Certificates (NOCs) under one umbrella**.

- The single-window portal will promote ease of **doing business and help industrialists and entrepreneurs apply** for different **licences and NOCs** through it.

Elephant Festival & Rejuvenation Camp begins at Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh

- **A five-day Elephant Festival and Rejuvenation Camp** is being held at **Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve** in **Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh**. The camp is being organised near Parasi Gate in the Dhamokhar buffer zone from September 24 to 28.
- The aim is to give working elephants some rest, check their health and provide them with nutritious and favourite food. Nine out of the 15 camp elephants in Bandhavgarh have been included in the camp.

India Launches First PRAMAAN Certificates Under Forest Scheme

- **Union Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Bhupender Yadav** recently handed over the **first PRAMAAN certificates** under the **Indian Forest and Wood Certification Scheme (IFWCS) in New Delhi**. The event was organised by the **Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal**, the operating agency of the scheme.
- **PRAMAAN stands for** Programme for Recognition and Accreditation of Sustainable Management Practices for Agroforestry and Natural Forestry Resources. It is a national certification framework for forests, wood and non-timber forest products (NTFPs). Its objective is to promote sustainable management and connect certified forest and agroforestry products with domestic and international markets.

Tamil Nadu CM Vijay launches Vettri Payanam scheme, expanding no-fare bus travel for women

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay launched the expanded **Vetri Payanam Thittam** on October 2, 2026, providing **free bus travel for women and transgender persons** across more than 12,690 government buses.
- The expanded program aims to benefit roughly 84.32 lakh (8.43 million) passengers every day.

Gujarat Becomes Second State to Receive Presidential Assent for Uniform Civil Code

- **After Uttarakhand, Gujarat has become only the second state to receive the President's assent to its version of the Uniform Civil Code,** a set of rules that will govern civil matters like marriage, divorce and inheritance.
- The landmark legislation replaces varied personal laws with a unified legal code governing marriage, divorce, succession, and live-in relationships for all citizens residing within the state.

19th Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas Convention to be held in Kolkata from January 7-9, 2027

- The **19th edition of the Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas (PBD)** Convention will be held in **Kolkata, West Bengal**, from January 7 to 9, 2027.
- The three-day convention will be organised by the **MEA in partnership with the West Bengal government** and will bring together members of **the Indian diaspora and other stakeholders from across the world.**

Uttar Pradesh Renames Bhadohi District as Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi

- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced on 4 October 2026, that Bhadohi district will now be called Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi. He made the announcement at an event in the district.

Uttarakhand Becomes India's 6th Fully Literate State

- **Uttarakhand has been officially declared India's sixth fully literate state** with an **adult literacy rate of 98.70%.**
- **Literacy Rate**: Reached 98.70%, well above the 95% national benchmark for full literacy among people aged 15 and above.

Kerala Government Launched WOMN to Make Women's Travel Easier

- **Kerala's Women and Child Development Department is launching WOMN – Women on the Move and Menstrual Needs**, aimed at improving access to menstrual hygiene products for women and girls during travel.
- A Kerala government initiative to provide affordable sanitary **napkins and safe disposal facilities at public transport locations**, addressing menstrual hygiene needs during travel.

Ambaji Mohanthal Prasad of Gujarat Gets Geographical Indication (GI) Tag

- **The traditional Mohanthal Prasad offered at the Ambaji Temple in Gujarat** has received a **Geographical Indication (GI) tag**, recognizing its connection with the region's religious and culinary heritage.
- The GI tag was granted on October 8, 2026, following an application submitted by the **Shree Arasuri Ambaji Mata Devsthan Trust on October 1, 2026.**

India targets 100 GW of wind capacity by 2030

- **India is targeting 100 gigawatts (GW) of installed wind power capacity by 2030,** up about **70 percent from 59.20 GW currently in place through to September 30, 2026,** building on record installations and a growing project pipeline.
- India had added the largest amount of new capacity ever seen in the sector at 6.05 GW. The minister expects this record number to be surpassed in FY27 thanks to a robust pipeline of upcoming projects along with government support policies.

Lakshadweep Achieves 100% Literacy Under ULLAS Scheme

- **Lakshadweep was officially declared a 100% literate** Union Territory by Administrator Praful Patel under the **ULLAS–Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram.**
- **ULLAS (Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society)** – Nav Bharat Saaksharta Karyakram (New India Literacy Programme / NILP) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 to empower adults aged 15 and above who missed formal schooling with functional literacy and life skills.

National SARAS Mela 2026 to Promote Rural Women Entrepreneurs in Vijayawada

- **President Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate the National SARAS Mela 2026** in **Vijayawada** on October 15, with more than 1,500 women entrepreneurs from over 30 states and Union Territories expected to participate in the event.
- The mela, being organised for the **first time outside the Delhi-NCR region,** will be held at Punnami Ghat from October 13 to 31 in collaboration with the Society **for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), Andhra Pradesh.**

JOSH Campaign Launched to Support India's TB Elimination Efforts

- Union Minister for **Health and Family Welfare, Jagat Prakash Nadda** launched Joint Squad for Health – **JOSH Teams under the TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan at a function in New Delhi.** It is a significant step towards strengthening youth-led community participation in India's efforts to **eliminate tuberculosis.**
- In the first phase, JOSH Teams will be rolled out **across 55 districts in 11 States,** with the objective of strengthening youth-led community mobilisation and taking the message of **TB Mukt Bharat to the grassroots.**

WPI inflation quickens to 11.39% in September from 9.9% in August

- **Wholesale prices in India rose significantly to 11.39% in September,** driven by rising fuel and food costs. **Retail inflation also increased to 5.54%, attributed largely to higher vegetable prices.**
- Concerns remain over food inflation maintaining elevated levels due to factors like uneven monsoon rainfall and El Nino risks. Increased global commodity prices are further affecting food production costs and transportation expenses.

India to be fastest-growing large economy at 7.3% in 2026 as global trade slows to 4%: UNCTAD

- The **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD**) projects India to be the **world's fastest-growing large economy with a real GDP growth rate of 7.3% in 2026**, followed by a **projected 6.8% in 2027,** according to its Trade and Development Report 2026.
- India's expansion is anchored by strong domestic demand, expanding manufacturing capacity, and public infrastructure programs.

Govt forms Ramesh Chand-led panel to examine sugarcane farmers' demands

- Amid soaring sugar prices and unrest among farmers over falling yields, **the central government constituted a high-powered committee under former NITI Aayog member Ramesh Chand to examine sugarcane farmers' demands,** including higher remunerative returns, revision of the minimum selling price (MSP) of **sugar and concerns over deductions in the weight of mechanically harvested cane.**
- The committee was formed following a meeting between representatives of sugarcane **farmers from Karnataka and Maharashtra and the Union ministers for agriculture and farmers welfare** and consumer affairs, food and public distribution.

Asiatic lions return to Gujarat's Barda Wildlife Sanctuary after 144 years

- For more than a century, **Gir Forest has been synonymous with Asiatic lions in India**. But **another forest in Gujarat is emerging as an important habitat for the**

endangered big cats. Barda Wildlife Sanctuary, where lions had disappeared for **nearly 144 years, is now home to 17 Asiatic lions.**

- A study published in the journal PLOS One has found that Barda offers suitable habitat, adequate prey and environmental conditions that could support a lion population over the long term.

PM GatiShakti National Master Plan Completes 5 Years of Implementation

- The **PM GatiShakti National Master Plan completed five years of implementation on October 13, 2026**, after being launched **by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 13, 2021.**
- **Digital Integration & Engines:** The GIS platform links 58 Central Ministries, 36 States/UTs, and thousands of data layers to synchronize the seven core infrastructure engines (roads, railways, ports, waterways, airports, mass transit, and logistics).

LIC launches three new insurance plans for retirement income, health and cancer cover

- **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) will launch three new insurance plans** on October 19, 2026, offering financial protection against health risks, cancer and retirement-related needs. The products are **LIC's New Jeevan Dhara-II (Plan 892), LIC's Health Shield (Plan 907) and LIC's New Cancer Cover (Plan 908).**
- **New Jeevan Dhara-II (Plan 892):** A savings deferred annuity plan providing guaranteed, lifelong retirement income after a deferment period of 1 to 15 years.
- **Health Shield (Plan 907):** A pure risk benefit family health plan offering fixed daily hospital cash benefits alongside lump-sum payouts for major surgeries and critical illnesses.
- **New Cancer Cover (Plan 908):** A pure risk health benefit providing specialized financial support for cancer diagnoses.

India's Ramsar Sites Reach 103 With Sukhna & Sauj Jheel

- **India expanded its network of internationally recognized wetlands to 103 sites** following the official designation of **Sukhna Wetland in Chandigarh and Sauj Jheel in Uttar Pradesh.**
- **Sukhna Wetland (Foothills of the Shivalik Range, Chandigarh):**Serves as a vital wintering ground for migratory waterfowl traveling along the Central Asian Flyway.
- **Sauj Jheel (Mainpuri District, Uttar Pradesh):** Forms a critical freshwater sanctuary within the Indo-Gangetic plain. It supports thriving populations of vulnerable bird species, including the Sarus Crane (Antigone antigone), while aiding groundwater recharge and supporting local agricultural ecosystems.

Sankoo Becomes Ladakh's 8th District, Gets Separate Hill Council

- **Ladakh got its eighth district as Sankoo was carved out of Kargil,** ending a long wait for residents who had been demanding a separate district. **Sankoo will also have its own hill council, though elections to it will be held later.**
- **Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxen**a announced the decision during a visit to Sankoo, where a large gathering celebrated the move.

Telangana Celebrates Nine-Day Bathukamma Flower Festival

- The **Bathukamma festival, Telangana's traditional festival of flowers, began with Engilipula Bathukamma a**nd will continue for nine days, **celebrating nature, women's unity and the cultural traditions of the state.**
- At the end of the celebrations, the Bathukamma **floral arrangement is immersed in a pond or lake.**

Jaipur has been named in National Geographic's Best of the World 2027.

- **Jaipur will turn 300 in 2027,** and that's just one of the many more reasons for travellers to visit Rajasthan's capital. The city has made **National Geographic's Best of the World 2027 list, which features 25 destinations across six continents.**
- The annual selection highlights places with something special to offer in the year ahead, from major cultural events and historic anniversaries to new outdoor experiences. For Jaipur, the **focus is on its architectural heritage, traditional crafts and the 20th edition of the Jaipur Literature Festival.**

Three Indian Sites Added to UNESCO's Tentative List of World Heritage Sites

- The **Baratang Karst-Mud Volcano Complex and Andaman Subduction Volcanoes in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands**, along with the **Sirpur Cultural and Archaeological Landscape in Chhattisgarh**, have been added to India's **UNESCO Tentative List of World Heritage Sites**. With these additions, **India's Tentative List has reached 81 sites.**
- A Tentative List is an inventory of properties that a country considers suitable for possible nomination **to the UNESCO World Heritage List**. It helps countries identify and plan for the conservation of sites with potential Outstanding Universal Value.

Cyclone Arnab Forecast to Hit Andhra Pradesh Coast

- **Cyclone Arnab, the first cyclone of 2026 in the North Indian Ocean basin,** made landfall on India's east coast, crossing the **Andhra Pradesh and Yanam (Puducherry) coasts.**
- The **"very severe" cyclonic storm has since weakened into a "severe" cyclonic** storm. It uprooted trees and power poles, triggered widespread power outages, and forced the evacuation of over 1,80,000 people across **Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.**

Ladakh Becomes India's First Fully 100% Organic Union Territory

- In achieving the sustainable agriculture and ecological balance, the **Union Territory of Ladakh becomes India's first fully 100% Organic Union Territory**.
- **Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh Vinai Kumar Saxena** declared on October 25, 2026 as **Ladakh UT as India's first 100% Organic Union Territory to promote organic farming**, protect the fragile Himalayan ecosystem & improve the quality of agricultural produce.

Nelakondapalli Buddhist Maha Stupa in Telangana to be Developed as an International Heritage Site

- The **Telangana government has initiated measures to conserve and restore the historic Buddhist maha stupa at Nelakondapalli in Khammam district**, with the

foundation stone laid for comprehensive tourism infrastructure to transform the location into an international heritage destination.

- **Nelakondapalli is distinguished by its massive Buddhist maha stupa**, marking it as a key centre of early historic Buddhist presence in the region.

Chapter 13: Current Affairs (International)

World Bank ranks India among top 10 in AI readiness

- **The World Bank Group has recently released a report titled 'India and Artificial Intelligence**: Seizing the Development Opportunity' under the India Development Update (IDU).
- **According to the World Bank's latest report**, "India has emerged among the top 10 leading emerging-market performers in artificial intelligence (AI) readiness, supported by its large technical workforce, globally integrated IT sector and digital public infrastructure".

India, New Zealand Sign MoC on Electronic Origin Data Exchange Under FTA

- **India and New Zealand have signed Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC**) on Electronic Origin Data Exchange to **Facilitate Bilateral Trade Under the India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA).**
- The MoC marks an important step towards **strengthening customs cooperation** and **facilitating bilateral trade between the two countries.**

Chapter 14: Banking & Financial

IndusInd Bank Launched 'GCC Banking Vertical' with Five Core Capabilities

- **IndusInd Bank announced the launch of its dedicated GCC Banking vertical,** a pioneering proposition for **India's Global Capability Centre ecosystem.**
- **India's GCC ecosystem has grown 32% since FY2021 and now comprises 2,117 GCCs**, underscoring the country's growing importance as a global capability hub and the increasingly sophisticated banking requirements of the sector.

Bank of India Launches User-Level Programmable Digital Rupee with Auto-Issuance

- **Bank of India has gone live with User-Level Programmable CBDC and Auto Issuance on its Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)** platform, built by Montran India. Built in line with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) guidelines, the capability was formally announced in Mumbai.
- A parent supporting a child studying in another city can replace the manual monthly transfer with a standing instruction: **a fixed sum, credited to the child's e₹ wallet on the same date each month, spendable on tuition, meals and the other education expenses the parent approved in advance.**

Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 comes into effect, replaces colonial-era law

- **Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 2026 officially came into force on October 1, 2026**, replacing the **colonial-era Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1891.**

Features of the New Act

- **Digital Recognition**: Validates electronic, digital, virtual, and cloud-based bank records as legally admissible evidence.
- **Simplified Certification**: Allows records to be authenticated via manual, digital, or electronic signatures

ICICI Lombard General Insurance Launches 'VIBE' Health Insurance Plan for GenZ

- **ICICI Lombard General Insurance has launched a new health protection proposition called VIBE**, targeting **young consumers** with a product that combines hospitalisation cover, outpatient care**, mental health support, teleconsultations, health screenings and lifestyle rewards under one plan.**
- The product is built on the company's existing IL TakeCare platform and is designed as a mobile-first offering. VIBE comes in six plan variants, Rookie, BasicFit, Upgrade, Flex, GOAT and Value, with sum insured **options ranging from ₹7 lakh to ₹1 crore.**

Bank of Baroda Becomes Second Public Sector Bank to Sponsor a Pension Fund

- **Bank of Baroda became the second public sector bank to enter the pension fund business after receiving the PFRDA Certificate of Appointment** as Sponsor of the Pension Fund **under Section 27 of the PFRDA Act, 2013**, on the occasion of NPS Divas 2026.
- The bank also became one of the first few banks to onboard Tatkal NPS on the BHIM App as part of its second-phase rollout. The integration was aimed at making digital onboarding to the National Pension System more accessible through the BHIM platform.

RBI Hikes Repo Rate by 25 Basis Points to 5.50%

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has increased its policy repo rate by 25 basis points (bps) to 5.50 per cent**, marking the **first rate hike since February 2023** and signalling a shift towards tighter monetary policy amid rising inflationary pressures**, elevated crude oil prices and a challenging global interest-rate environment.**
- **The MPC has also hiked the growth projection from 6.7 per cent to 7.1 per cent** in FY27 in the wake of the higher economic activity in the country. **The panel also raised the inflation forecast to 5.2 per cent for FY27 from 5 per cent previously.**

RBI Opens Special Dollar Window for Three State-Owned Oil Companies

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI), on October 10,** announced a **special window to meet the entire daily dollar** requirements of three public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs), as the central bank moves to ensure orderly functioning of the foreign exchange market.
- The facility will be available to **Indian Oil Corporation, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation** from October 12 and will remain in place until further notice.

Federal Bank Launches 'Verto Premium Savings Account' for Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs

- **Federal Bank launched the Verto Premium Savings Account** in October 2026 to cater to **young professionals, entrepreneurs, salaried executives, and growth-focused resident individuals.**
- **Perks & Rewards**: Offers 5% cashback on food, fashion, and flight debit card spends, complimentary domestic airport lounge access, and up to ₹35 lakh in insurance coverage.

Retail inflation rises to 5.54% in September from 4.82% in August as food prices climb

- **Retail inflation in India rose to 5.54% in September 2026, while food inflation climbed to 7.74%**, according to provisional data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). The figures show that food prices continued to put pressure on household budgets.
- **Retail inflation stood at 6.08% in rural areas in September, compared with 4.88% in urban areas.** This indicates that price pressures were higher in rural India than in cities.

India's Net Direct Tax Collections Rise 13.21% to ₹13.38 Lakh Crore in FY 2026–27

- **India's net direct tax collections registered a growth of 13.21%, reaching ₹13.38 lakh crore** as on October 14, 2026, compared to **₹11.82 lakh crore during the corresponding period of FY 2025–26,** according to the latest direct tax collection data.
- **Gross direct tax collections increased by 14.89% to ₹16.03 lakh crore, against ₹13.95 lakh crore** in the previous year, reflecting strong revenue mobilization from corporate tax, non-corporate tax and Securities Transaction Tax (STT).

Key Tax Collection Breakdown

The financial data highlights a significant growth trajectory across both gross collections and individual tax components compared to the previous fiscal year:

Tax Component / Category	FY 2025–26 (₹ crore)	FY 2026–27 (₹ crore)	YoY Growth / Change
Gross Direct Tax Collections	₹13,95,278.39	₹16,03,066.12	**+14.89%**
Tax Refunds Issued	₹2,13,491.41	₹2,65,199.14	**+24.22%**
Net Direct Tax Collections	₹11,81,786.98	₹13,37,866.98	**+13.21%**
Net Corporate Tax (CIT)	₹4,96,798.62	₹5,99,062.48	**+20.58%**
Net Non-Corporate Tax (PIT, HUFs, etc.)	₹6,53,804.16	₹6,91,965.71	**+5.83%**
Securities Transaction Tax (STT)	₹30,901.81	₹46,840.43	**+51.58%**

Cabinet approves Rs 52,878 crore IDBI Bank sale to Fairfax arm in India's largest financial-sector FDI

- The **Union Cabinet approved the sale of a 60.72% stake in IDBI Bank to Fairfax Financial Holdings'** subsidiary, M/s 10955230 Canada Inc., for Rs 52,878.08 crore, paving the way for a major restructuring of the lender.
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) led by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the Canadian entity as the strategic buyer**.

Karnataka Bank launches nine new banking solutions under Nava Dhamaka 2026

- **Karnataka Bank has launched a new range of banking products and service**s under the theme '**Nava Dhamaka 2026 - Enhancing Banking Experience'**.
- Under '**Nava Dhamaka 2026'**, the bank unveiled nine key solutions spanning investments, digital banking, payments, customer engagement and lending.

ICICI Life Insurance Unveils New Brand Identity with 'Har Kal Aasaan' Tagline

- **ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has officially rebranded** itself as **ICICI Life Insurance**, unveiling a fresh brand identity and a **new tagline: 'Har Kal Aasaan'.**
- The insurer stated that the strategic repositioning also aligns with the broader industry objective of **achieving 'Insurance for All by 2047'.**

CareEdge Global IFSC to sell 19.8% stake to State Bank of India, NSEIX

- **Care Edge Ratings it has decided to sell a 19.8 per cent stake** in its wholly-owned subsidiary **CareEdge Global IFSC to State Bank of India** and NSE IFSC.
- The company has executed share purchase agreements and a **shareholders' agreement with State Bank of India (SBI) and NSE IFSC (NSEIX) to sell a 9.9 per cent equity stake each in CareEdge Global IFSC Ltd (CGIL),** Care Edge Ratings said in a regulatory filing.

RBI Revises Bank Leverage Ratio Framework under Basel III Norms

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued the Reserve Bank of India (Commercial Banks – Prudential Norms on Capital Adequacy)** Eleventh Amendment Directions, 2026 on October 23, 2026, revising the bank leverage ratio framework in alignment with the **Basel Committee on Banking Supervision's (BCBS) 2017 standards.**
- **Effective Date:** The revised framework takes effect on April 1, 2027.
- **Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs):** Must maintain a minimum leverage ratio of 4.0% (applies to lenders such as SBI, HDFC Bank, and ICICI Bank).
- **Other Commercial Banks:** Must maintain a minimum leverage ratio of 3.5%.

PM Modi opens RBI's ₹169-crore data centre and cybersecurity institute in Odisha

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Reserve Bank of India's ₹169-crore data centre and Cybersecurity Training Institute** at Jatni, near **Bhubaneswar.**
- The project brings computing infrastructure and s**pecialised training facilities together to support the security and reliability** of India's financial system.

RBI 2026

Repo Rate	5.50% (up from 5.25%)
Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate	5.75%
Bank Rate	5.75%
Cash reserve Ratio (CRR)	3%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	18%

Chapter 15: Committee

Chapter 16: Defence News

India Exported Akash Missile System to Tajikistan and Turkmenistan

- **India's indigenous Akash air defence missile system has expanded its footprint into Central Asia**, with Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh confirming that the system has been **exported to Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, in addition to Armenia.**
- "The first customer was **Armenia, which has taken multiple batteries. Thereafter, we've also exported it to Tajikistan and Turkmenistan,**
- **About Akash**: The Akash is an indigenous short range surface to air missile system developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to protect vulnerable areas and vulnerable points from aerial attacks.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and SkyPulse Solutions Sign MoU for Deployment of 30 Helicopters

- **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and SkyPulse Solutions IFSC** signed a memorandum of understanding on September 26, 2026, for **a ₹2,491 crore program to finance, lease, and deploy 30 made-in-India helicopters.**

- **Phase 1 (2027–2029):** Acquisition of the first 10 helicopters, with initial induction planned in FY 2027–28.
- **Phase 2 (2030 onwards):** Deployment of the remaining 20 helicopters.

India Launches First Indigenous Fleet Support Ship 'Surya' at Visakhapatnam

- **Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh launched India's first indigenous Fleet Support Ship (FSS-1) 'Surya'**, laid the keel of FSS-5 and inaugurated the upgraded **Slipway-4 and 300-tonne Goliath Crane at Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam.**
- **300-Tonne Goliath Crane**: The crane spans Slipways 3 and 4 and was designed and manufactured by L&T Geostructure with Konecranes under the Make in India initiative.

VP C. P. Radhakrishnan Commissions India's First Indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel 'INS Samarthak' at Karwar, Karnataka

- The **Vice-President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, commissioned INS Samarthak, the Indian Navy's first indigenous Multi-Purpose Vessel**, at **Karwar, Karnataka.**
- The commissioning marks a significant milestone in India's journey towards self-reliance in defence manufacturing **and the development of advanced indigenous naval capabilities.**

Ukraine Joins NATO Procurement Partnership for Defence Equipment

- **Ukraine formally joined the NATO Support and Procurement Agency's (NSPA) Security Cooperation Support Partnership (SCSP) on October 22, 2026**, making it the first and only non-NATO nation with a dedicated partnership of this type.
- **Ukrainian defence companies** can now **directly participate in, bid for, and win NATO procurement contracts**. Ukraine can use NSPA's structured framework to purchase weapons, ammunition, uniforms, and military supplies faster and at a lower cost through economies of scale.

Goa Shipyard Launches INS Srishti for Indian Navy Maritime Security

- **Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), a premier Defence Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Defence,** marked another significant milestone in **India's indigenous defence shipbuilding journey** with the launch of the **Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessel (NGOPV) INS Srishti (Yard 1283)**, built by GSL for the Indian Navy.
- Offshore Patrol Vessels play an important role in **maritime surveillance, protection of offshore assets and the safeguarding of India's maritime interests.**

Defence Exercise	Between	About

Exercise Jai Se Vijay	The **Indian Army's Sapta Shakti** Command (South Western Command)	Theme: **"Mission Ready, Future Ready"**
The India-UAE Joint Military Exercise Mountain Guardian 2026	India-UAE	To enhance **interoperability, mutual understanding and cooperation**, with a focus on **Mountain Warfare.**
India-Russia Naval Exercise INDRA 2026	India-Russia	The exercise will include a range of **professional interactions and maritime evolutions** aimed at enhancing mutual understanding, **operational coordination and interoperability between the participating navies.**
India-UK bilateral maritime exercise KONKAN-26	India-UK	The exercise **reaffirms the shared commitment of India and the UK** to ensuring **secure, open and free seas**. It also reflects the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership outlined in the **India-UK Vision 2035**
The ninth edition of the India-Brazil-South Africa Maritime Exercise (IBSAMAR IX)	India-Brazil-South Africa	Theme of IBSAMAR IX: **"Stronger Together Towards a Shared Future in the Maritime Domain"**
Exercise Akhand Prahar-II	Indian Army	The exercise focused on strengthening operational effectiveness by integrating **New Generation Equipment (NGEs) and Force Multipliers (FMs).**

The fifth joint Military exercise of India and Australia, AUSTRAHIND 2026	India and Australia	**Exercise AUSTRAHIND 2026** aims to further strengthen **military-to-military cooperation, interoperability** and mutual trust between **India and Australia**
The 33rd edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX-2026)	Singapore-India	The two exchanged **professional views on strengthening maritime cooperation** between the countries and discussed matters of **mutual interest**.

Chapter 17: Sports News

Indian-Origin Bodhana Sivanandan Becomes Youngest Woman Grandmaster at 46th Chess Olympiad 2026

- I**ndian-origin chess prodigy Bodhana Sivanandan** has created history by becoming the **youngest Woman Grandmaster**. The 11-year-old, who represents England, achieved the milestone at the **46th Chess Olympiad which concluded yesterday at Samarkand in Uzbekistan.**
- Bodhana played all 11 rounds on England's top board and finished the tournament with eight points.

Qatar receives OCA flag to host 21st Asian Games 2030

- **Qatar formally received the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Flag** at the **Closing Ceremony of the 20th Asian Games Aichi-Nagoya 2026**, officially beginning its journey towards hosting the **continental Games in Doha in 2030.**
- The handover ceremony also saw the unveiling of the Doha 2030 identity and slogan, '**The Games We Live For'**, as Qatar prepares to welcome Asia to the capital 20 years after Doha hosted the Asian Games for the first time in 2006.

Asian Games 2026: Highlights

- **Asian GAMES Headquarters**: Kuwait City, Kuwait
- **Asian GAMES Established:** 1982
- **Host city:** Aichi Prefecture and Nagoya, Japan
- **Next Hosting:** Doha, Qatar (2030)
- **Motto:** Imagine One Asia
- **Flag bearers (opening):** Manu Bhaker, Pawan Sehrawat
- **Flag bearer (closing):** Neeru Dhanda

- **India 's First Medallists:** Sonam Uttam Maskar, Elavenil Valarivan, Vidarsa Vinod Kochalumkal (Women's 10m Air Rifle Team)
- **Scale:** Featured 46 nations competing across 43 sports and 469 gold medal events.

2026 Asian Games medal table					
Rank	**Nation**	**Gold**	**Silver**	**Bronze**	**Total**
1	**China**	169	89	83	341
2	**Japan**	83	95	91	269
3	**South Korea**	39	43	68	150
4	**India**	21	27	37	85
5	**Uzbekistan**	21	25	24	70
6	**Iran**	19	18	15	52
7	**Thailand**	18	13	21	52
8	**Kazakhstan**	12	24	48	84
9	**Hong Kong**	11	19	24	54
10	**Bahrain**	11	5	6	22

India Gold Medalists at the 2026 Asian Games

Player / Team Name	**Sport Name**	**Event / Details**
India Women's Team	Cricket	Women's T20 Event
Kamaljeet, Suruchi Singh	Shooting	Mixed Team 10m Air Pistol
India Women's Team	Kabaddi	Women's Event
India Men's Team	Kabaddi	Men's Event
Neeru Dhanda	Shooting	Women's Trap
Kiran Pahal, Poovamma MR, Prachi Choudhary, Vithya Ramraj	Athletics	Women's 4x400m Relay
Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Prithika Pradeep, Chikitha Taniparthi	Archery	Women's Compound Team
Chikitha Taniparthi, Sahil Jadhav	Archery	Mixed Compound Team
Kynan Chenai, Neeru Dhanda	Shooting	Mixed Trap

Sahil Jadhav, Ganesh Mani Ratnam Thirumuru, Kushal Dalal	Archery	Men's Compound Team
Ankita Bhakat, Kirti Sharma, Kumkum Mohod	Archery	Women's Team Recurve
Lovlina Borgohain	Boxing	Women's 75kg
Parveen Hooda	Boxing	Women's 65kg (Women's 65kg)
Ankush Panghal	Boxing	Men's 80kg
Sujeet Kalkal	Wrestling	Men's Freestyle 65kg
India Women's Team	Hockey	Women's Event
Kumkum Mohod	Archery	Women's Individual Recurve
Pranavi Urs	Golf	Women's Individual
India Men's Team	Cricket	Men's Event
Aman Sehrawat	Wrestling	Men's Freestyle 57kg
India Men's Hockey Team	Hockey	Men's Event

India Silver Medalists at the 2026 Asian Games

Athlete / Team	**Sport**	**Event (Medal)**
Elavenil Valarivan, Sonam Maskar, Vidarsa Vinod	Shooting	Women's 10m air rifle team (Silver)
Elavenil Valarivan	Shooting	Women's 10m air rifle (Silver)
Rudrankksh Patil, Parth Mane, Himanshu Dhillon	Shooting	Men's 10m air rifle team (Silver)
Himanshu Dhillon	Shooting	Men's 10m air rifle (Silver)
Mirabai Chanu	Weightlifting	Women's 49kg (Silver)
Roshibina Devi	Wushu	Women's 60kg sanda (Silver)
Manu TS, Poovamma MR, Vishal Thennarasu, Vithya Ramraj	Athletics	Mixed 4x400m relay (Silver)
Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, Rudranksh Patil, Niraj Kumar	Shooting	Men's 50m rifle 3P team (Silver)
Gulveer Singh	Athletics	Men's 10000m & 1500m (Silver)

Sawan Berwal / Tajinderpal Singh Toor	Athletics	Men's marathon / Shot put (Silver)
Abhay Singh & Anahat Singh	Squash	Singles events (Silver)
Ancy Sojan & Murali Sreeshankar	Athletics	Long jump events (Silver)
Esha Singh	Shooting	Women's 25m pistol (Silver)

India Bronze Medalists at the 2026 Asian Games

Athlete / Team	Sport	Event / Model
Rudrankksh Patil	Shooting	Men's 10m air rifle
Suchika Tariyal	Mixed martial arts	Women's traditional - 60kg
Parinaaz Dhaliwal, Raiza Dhillon, Maheshwari Chauhan	Shooting	Women's skeet team
Anantjeet Singh Naruka, Bhavtegh Singh Gill, Mairaj Ahmad Khan	Shooting	Men's skeet team
Jay Meena	Soft tennis	Men's singles
Team India	Badminton	Men's team
Seema Kumari	Athletics	Women's 10000m
Diya Chitale, Manush Shah	Table tennis	Mixed doubles
Nethra Kumanan	Sailing	Women's dinghy
Team India	Sepaktakraw	Men's quadrant team
Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, Rudranksh Patil, Niraj Kumar	Shooting	50m Rifle 3 Positions Men's Team
Abhay Singh	Squash	Men's Singles

Rest of India Defeat J&K to Win Irani Cup 2026

- **Rest of India defeated reigning Ranji Trophy champions Jammu and Kashmir** by 167 runs on October 4, 2026, at the **Sher-e-Kashmir Cricket Stadium in Srinagar to win the 2026-27 Irani Cup.**
- The tournament, the **first Irani Cup** to be **hosted in Srinagar**, concluded peacefully, marking a significant moment for cricket in the Valley. The high-profile contest drew spectators to the stadium, where they cheered for their favourite players throughout the match.

Novak Djokovic Won Record Seventh China Open Title

- **Serbian tennis player Novak Djokovic won his record-extending seventh China Open title** on 6 October 2026 in Beijing, taking his **career tally to 102 ATP singles titles.**
- The victory brought Djokovic within one title of Roger Federer's 103 career titles.Djokovic extended his winning record at the China Open to 34 victories without a defeat.

Carlos Alcaraz Won 2026 Japan Open

- **Carlos Alcaraz wins the Japan Open men's singles title in Tokyo** on 6 October 2026.
- **Defeated Jiri Lehecka** 7-6(4), 6-4; successfully defended the title (second consecutive crown).
- T**hird title of 2026 season; career total rises to 27. Japan Open is an ATP hard-court event on Asian swing.**

Verstappen Won Bahrain GP 2026

- **Red Bull's Max Verstappen has finally won his first race of the Formula One** season amid chaotic scenes at the **Bahrain Grand Prix,** which was held in Malaysia an hour and 40 minutes late due to heavy rain.
- Verstappen gained the lead after an early safety car and led home the **Mercedes of championship leader Kimi Antonelli in second and the Ferrari of Lewis Hamilton in third** at the Sepang International Circuit.

BRICS Traditional and Indigenous Sports Demonstration Games 2026 inaugurated in Ahmedabad

- **Union Sports Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the BRICS Traditional and Indigenous Sports Demonstration Games 2026** at the **Veer Savarkar Sports Complex in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.**
- The Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports organised the games in collaboration with the Gujarat Government.

Max Verstappen won the 2026 Singapore Grand Prix

- **Red Bull's Max Verstappen** delivered a commanding performance to **win the Singapore Grand Prix,** securing his second straight victory of the season after a perfect weekend that included a sprint race triumph.
- **Ferrari's Charles Leclerc who finished second** while **Mercedes' Kimi Antonelli was third to close** in on a first title.

Sheetal Devi Equals World Record with 704 Points in Para-Archery

- **Indian para-archer Sheetal Devi equalled the women's compound archery world record by scoring 704 out of 720 points** at the **2026 Asian Para Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.**
- **World Record Match**: Tied the joint world record of 704 points previously set by Turkey's Öznur Cure Girdi at the 2024 Paris Paralympics.
- **Asian & Games Records**: Shattered her own previous Asian record of 698 points (set in March 2026) and her previous Asian Para Games mark of 680 points (set in Hangzhou in 2023).

Bangladesh and Nepal to host Women's Under-19 T20 World Cup 2027

- The **ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup 2027** will kickstart from January 21 in **Bangladesh and Nepal** with 16 teams competing for the title.
- The third edition of the tournament, **which was first hosted in 2023**, will see four groups of four teams, with 41 matches scheduled to be played across four venues in the two countries.

ICC Confirms LA28 Olympic Cricket Qualifiers for January-February 2028

- **The International Cricket Council (ICC) has scheduled the men's and women's T20 qualifying tournaments for the LA28 Olympic Games** to take place in January and February 2028.
- Both the men's and women's qualifying events will be staged in January–February 2028, just **under six months before the start of the Los Angeles Games (July 12–29, 2028).**

Pankaj Advani Wins 21st World Billiards Title in England

- Indian cue sports **legend Pankaj Advani won his 21st World Billiards title (and 29th career world title overall) by defeating England's Robert Hall** 1,906–1,206 in the final of the 2026 World Billiards Championship at the Landywood Snooker Club in Great Wyrley, England.
- **India's Shruthi L also won the Women's World Billiards Championship** at the same venue, defeating Australia's Anna Lynch 347–222.

Indian-origin English player Bodhana Sivanandan becomes youngest female International Master

- **Bodhana Sivanandan, an English chess player of Indian origin**, has broken **Judit Polgar's 38-year-old record** to become the **youngest female International Master (IM) at 11 years old.**
- Hailing from Harrow in north London, Sivanandan needed just a handful of rating points to achieve the open IM title, surpass Polgar's benchmark, and rank among the top 10 youngest IMs in history.

Ahmedabad to host Senior World Weightlifting Championships in 2029

- The **International Weightlifting Federation (IWF)** announced that **Ahmedabad will host the Senior World Weightlifting Championships in 2029**. This will be the **first time that India hosts the senior edition** of the prestigious global event.
- The decision was taken at the IWF Executive Board meeting held in Ningbo, China. **The IWF also awarded the hosting rights for the 2030 Senior World Weightlifting Championships to Moscow, the capital of Russia.**

Kimi Antonelli Won US Grand Prix

- **Kimi Antonelli (Mercedes) won the 2026 United States Grand Prix** at the Circuit of The Americas (COTA) in **Austin, Texas.**
- **Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) secure second place and Max Verstappen (Red Bull) secure third place.**

Christo Popov & An Se-young Win Singles Titles; India's P. V. Sindhu Finishes as Runner-up in French Open Badminton 2026

- **Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu returned to the top eight of the BWF World Rankings in women's singles**, climbing three places after her **runner-up finish** at the **French Open Super 750 in Paris**.
- Sindhu came close to adding another title to her collection, taking the opening game against **world No. 1 An Se Young before the South Korean rallied to win 16-21, 21-11, 21-12.**

Chapter 18: Book and Author

Book	Author
Book 'Rag Rag Mein Cricket'	Launched by former India captain Sunil Gavaskar
Book "The Evolution of TV News in India"	Launched by former Prasar Bharati Chairman **Surya Prakash** Written by Harsaran Bir Kaur Pandey
The book, 'Advantage India: Reshaping the Future for an Equitable World'	Authored by **Anil K. Antony**
English Translation of Book 'The Story of Vande Mataram'	Unveiled by former **Governor of Bihar and Kerala, Dr Arif Muhammad Khan**

Chapter 19: Important Day

Date	Day	Theme/Importance
1 October	International Day of the Older Persons	Theme 2026: **"The Age of Longevity: Rethinking Systems for Longer Lives"**
1 October	International Coffee Day	Theme 2026: **"Coffee is Part of the Solution"**
1 October	World Vegetarian Day	To promote **vegetarian eating and raise awareness of the potential health, ethical, and environmental** benefits of being a vegetarian.

2 October	Gandhi Jayanti	Gandhi Jayanti commemorating the leader's role in the country's **independence movement and his philosophy of truth and non-violence**.
2 October	Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti	Lal Bahadur Shastri coined the immortal **slogan "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan" (Hail the Soldier, Hail the Farmer)** during the 1965 India-Pakistan war to honor the country's soldiers and farmers.
4 October	World Animal Welfare Day	Theme 2026: **See the World Through Their Eyes."**
5 October	World Teachers' Day	Theme 2026: **"Standing with Teachers: 60 Years of Protecting the Profession, Advancing Its Status and Shaping Our Futures"**
5 October	World Habitat Day	Theme 2026: **"Adequate Housing for All"**
5 October	World Architecture Day	Theme: **"Housing is a Human Right. Build It."**
6 October	World Cerebral Palsy Day	Theme 2026: **"Unique and United"**
7 October	World Cotton Day	Theme 2026: **Cotton for Good: Building Prosperity Through Trade, Transformation and Partnership**
8 October	Indian Air Force Day	**Theme 2026: "Indian Air Force – Infallible, Impervious and Precise"**
9 October	World Sight Day	Theme 2026: **"Love Your Eyes"**
9 October	World Postal Day	Theme 2026: **"One postal network, infinite possibilities"**
10 October	World Mental Health Day	Theme 2026: **"Lived Experiences Heard: Real Voices, Real Change"**
10 October	National Post Day	Lord Dalhousie established it in 1854. It is currently the most commonly used postal system in the world and is run by the Ministry of Communications.

11 October	International Day of the Girl Child	Theme 2026: **"Ending child marriage and investing in girls' rights"**
13 October	**Breast Cancer Awareness Day**	**Discover ways to get involved, advocate for research, and stand with those fighting for scientific advances.**
13 October	International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	Theme 2026: **"Resilience Starts at Home"**
14 October	World Standards Day	Theme 2026: **"Shared vision for a better world: Spotlight on SDG 7, Affordable and Clean Energy"**
15 October	World Students' Day	He Promoting **quality education, scientific curiosity, youth empowerment,** and student-driven innovation.
15 October	Global Handwashing Day	Theme 2026: **"Be a Handwashing Hero!**
16 October	World Food Day	Theme 2026: **"Innovate Today. Nourish Tomorrow."**
16 October	World Spine Day	Theme 2026: **"Spine Health for Life"**
17 October	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	**2026–2028** Theme- **"United for Peace and Human Rights,"** the 2026 observance focuses on **"Safe Homes for All"**
20 October	World Statistics Day	To promote **statistical literacy, data integrity, and support for national statistical agencies** that track global development and sustainability.
21 October	Police Commemoration Day	Theme: **"Fight Against Drugs"**
23 October	National Mole Day	Theme 2026: **DispicaMole Me**
24 October	United Nations Day	Theme 2026**: "Restoring Trust, Managing Transformation: A United Nations That Delivers for All".**

24 October	World Polio Day	Theme 2026: **"One day, one focus: ending polio for good" (with Rotary International campaigns also emphasizing "Together, We End Polio")**
24 October	World Development Information Day	Aims to improve the dissemination of information and mobilize public opinion—**particularly among young people—about pressing socio-economic development issues.**
28 October	International Animation Day	Theme: **"Beyond Borders Many Voices. One Future"**
31 October	World Thrift Day	Promotes financial literacy, wise resource **management, personal financial security, and long-term economic growth.**

Chapter 20: Science & Technology

Japan launches MMX to bring home the first samples from a moon of Mars

- **Japan has launched MMX toward Mars**, aiming to return at **least 10 grams of material from Phobos in 2031.**
- The mission will test competing explanations for the origins of Phobos and Deimos and investigate the history of the Mars system.

ISRO to Launch NVS-03 Satellite to Strengthen India's NavIC System

- **The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is scheduled to launch** its **much-awaited navigation satellite, NVS-03,** on 30 October. The launch is expected to help revive **India's currently non-functional navigation system, NavIC.**
- The NVS series is the second generation **of satellites, succeeding the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) series.**
- The **NVS-03 will be carried aboard the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Mk-2 on the GSLV-F18 mission.**

Chapter 21: Obituary

Person	About
Veteran actor and filmmaker Nana Patekar	Winner of **three National Film Awards and the Padma Shri (2013).** He also served in the **Territorial Army as an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel**. Nearly

	five decades in **Hindi and Marathi cinema, along with theatre**
Filmmaker Singeetham Srinivasa Rao	**Legendary filmmaker Singeetham Srinivasa Rao**, who directed genre-**defining Indian films such as Pushpaka Vimanam and Aditya 369.**
Renowned British novelist Jeffrey Archer	Archer, a former **Conservative member of British Parliament**, sold more than **300 million books** during a writing career that spanned five decades.
Padma Awardee & Eminent Scientist Palle Rama Rao	**Rama Rao** was renowned for his contributions to **physical and mechanical metallurgy**. He received **the Padma Vibhushan in 2011**
Veteran Indian filmmaker Singeetham Srinivasa Rao	A career spanning over six decades across **Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, and Hindi cinema,** celebrated for experimental storytelling, **science fiction, and dialogue-free cinema.**
Oscar-winning actress Eva Marie Saint	**Saint won the Academy Award** for best supporting actress for her movie debut in director **Elia Kazan's 1954 crime drama,** On the Waterfront; playing Edie Doyle, the moral compass of the film and love interest of **Marlon Brando's conflicted boxer-turned-docker**
Padma Shri Kathak Dancer Roshan Kumari	Remembered for her iconic 9-minute Kathak performance in **Satyajit Ray's masterpiece Jalsaghar (1958)**, as well as work in films like **Parineeta (1953), Lekin (1990), and Sardari Begum** (1996)
Actor RJ Mitte	He received the **SAG-AFTRA Harold Russell Award** in **2013** for his performance.

NCC Founder and Padma Shri Awardee Dr. A.V.S. Raju	The **Government of India** honored him with the **Padma Shri in 2010** for his contributions to **trade and industry**.
Padma Shri Awardee Cheruvayal Raman, Known as 'Nellachan'	Preserved over **50 rare and indigenous rice varieties (including traditional staples like Thondi, MannuVeliyan, and aromatic cultivars like Jeerakasala** and **Gandhakashala**) on his farm, functioning as a **"living paddy gene bank".**
Renowned Fisheries Scientist and KUFOS Founding VC Prof. B. Madhusoodana Kurup	He extensively documented **inland aquatic biodiversity, discovered 'Eight new freshwater fish species'** in the Western Ghats, and spearheaded major conservation projects like the **Kuttanad Water Balance Study**
Veteran Hollywood Actor Tom Skerritt	Appeared in more than six decades of cinema, starring as **Captain Dallas in Alien (1979), Commander Mike "Viper" Metcalf in Top Gun (1986), Captain Duke Forrest in MASH* (1970), Drum Eatenton in Steel Magnolias (1989), and Rev. John Maclean in A River Runs Through It (1992)**
Former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda	The son of **former Japanese leader Takeo Fukuda,** he took office in September **2007 after Shinzo Abe's abrupt resignation**